



## Measles

[Canada is currently experiencing an increase in measles activity](#), with recent cases reported in Quebec and Ontario that are associated with [ongoing outbreaks](#). Measles is also circulating in [some areas of the US](#).

If deemed [susceptible to measles](#), children 6 months of age or older and adults (including those born before 1970) can access free [measles vaccine](#) if they will be travelling to or through areas where measles is circulating in Canada or travelling to any country outside of Canada.

- Note: Infants younger than 12 months of age may not respond sufficiently to the measles component of the vaccine in part due to the persistence of maternal measles antibody; therefore, any MMR-containing vaccine dose administered before 12 months of age should be repeated at 12 months of age or older with appropriate intervals between doses.

You can get the vaccine by contacting your [local public health or community health centre](#) or by calling 811.

## RSV Vaccine Eligibility - Age Change

RSV vaccine eligibility has been expanded to include community dwelling adults aged 70 and up (previously 75). Those 60 and older living in continuing care or who are Indigenous continue to be eligible. The current recommendation is to receive only one dose of this vaccine.

For more info: [07.316 Respiratory Syncytial Virus \(RSV\) Vaccine Information Sheet](#)

## Tobacco and Vaping Resources

- Video: [Quitting Smoking: The Rewards Start Now](#)
- Wellness article for [Tips on quitting smoking for good](#)
- Patient resources related to youth vaping: Behind The Haze [www.behindthehaze.ca](http://www.behindthehaze.ca)
- *Reminder*: free virtual workshops on supporting commercial tobacco cessation. Register today using the [AlbertaQuits Course Catalogue](#). For more information, review the [AlbertaQuits Learning Series: Course Descriptions and FAQ](#).
  - Foundational Health Educator (2-day workshop): March 11 & 18, 8:15am – 4:30pm

- Applied Tobacco Intervention (1-day workshop): April 8, 8:15 am – 4:15 pm

### **Rapid Syphilis and HIV Testing**

Rapid syphilis and HIV antibody testing is available at the acute care APL Laboratory at the Peter Lougheed Hospital. This is a screening test with quick turn around time. Confirmatory gold standard testing with higher specificity should also have been ordered. If support for community-based follow-up is required, please contact STICS (1-855-945-6700 option 4).

See the lab bulletin: [Implementation of Rapid Syphilis & HIV antibody testing at Peter Lougheed Hospital, APL Acute Care Laboratory \(albertahealthservices.ca\)](#)

### **Talking to Children and Teens About Substance Use**

Help parents and caregivers feel more prepared for tough conversations about substance use. [Talking to Children and Teens About Substance Use: A handbook for parents, caregivers, and youth allies](#) is an AHS resource for parents with children in grades 4-12, but it also has conversation-starters to use with younger kids.

- To order print copies of the handbook and promotional bookmarks with links to the e-book for your clinic, go to [dol.datacm.com](http://dol.datacm.com) then:
  - Enter the username tobaccopublic and the password dwcal2012
  - Click on Catalogue and choose the items to add to your cart
  - Fill out your mailing address and AHS will ship the materials to you at no cost. Available while supplies last.

For more information, go to [ahs.ca/talktips](http://ahs.ca/talktips). Still have questions? Email [tvcp@ahs.ca](mailto:tvcp@ahs.ca).